Maintenance of plants and trees on central verge of roads

2637. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects regarding maintenance of plants and trees on Central verge of roads in the Capital for example on the road connecting Nizammuddin Bridge in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that for months together, the department fails to maintain, prune and shape beautifully the plants and trees with the result that unwieldy growth takes place giving a bad look to the roads; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Plantation and maintenance of plants and trees on central verge of roads in the capital, including the road connecting Nizammuddin Bridge in Delhi, is done by various departments of the Government as well as Municipalities of Delhi state. Forest Department of Delhi undertakes maintenance of plantations on 8 roads of the capital, namely Road No. 43, NH-10, Nelson Mandela Road, Aruna Asaf Ali Road, Vikas Marg, Ring Road from Rajghat to ITO on the left side, Road No. 56, and NH-24 bypass from Noida 'More' to ITO crossing which includes stretch of Nizammuddin Bridge. Necessary measures are taken periodically for proper maintenance of the plants and trees, subject to availability of funds.

(c) Does not arise.

Air pollution in Delhi

2638. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S.P.M. SAYED KHAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi's air is the worst among the 20 Asian cities as evaluated recently by a joint study of the World Bank and Asian Development Board;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court has identified 16 cities in India as equal or more polluted than Delhi in Air Pollution Warranting Action plan;